



A HEALTHY
ENVIRONMENT AND A
HEALTHY ECONOMY
2.0

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INTRODUCTION

We all want the same thing: a clean and responsible energy future for our children and future generations while continuing to enjoy a high standard of living.

On December 11, 2020, the Prime Minister announced a new climate plan which he claimed will help achieve Canada's economic and environmental goals. The proposed plan by Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) entitled "***A Healthy Environment and a Healthy Economy***" will have an initial investment of \$15 billion of taxpayer's money. It is built on 5 pillars of action:

- 1) **Making the Places Canadians Live and Gather More Affordable by Cutting Energy Waste**
- 2) **Making Clean, Affordable Transportation and Power Available in Every Community**
- 3) **Continuing to Ensure Pollution isn't Free and Households Get More Money Back**
- 4) **Building Canada's Clean Industrial Advantage**
- 5) **Embracing the Power of Nature to Support Healthier Families and More Resilient Communities**

In this paper, "***A Healthy Environment and a Healthy Economy 2.0***" I will objectively critique each pillar in the government's new climate plan and provide alternative solutions to the same issues.

This is an alternative plan that supports workers, protects lower income earners and creates economic growth while respecting the environment and focusing on the dignity of work.

This plan abandons virtue-signaling projects and relies on Canadian ingenuity to build our economy and restore Canada's role of responsible leadership in the world.

1) MAKING THE PLACES CANADIANS LIVE AND GATHER MORE AFFORDABLE BY CUTTING ENERGY WASTE

HOME RETROFITS

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) \$2.6 billion over 7 years to provide \$5,000 grants for energy efficiency retrofits to your home.
- b) Increase the number of low-income households that benefit from energy retrofits.
- c) Develop a low-cost loan program that integrates and builds on existing energy audits and grants.
- d) Canada Infrastructure Bank is committing \$10 billion for the recently announced *Growth Plan*.

The Issues:

- a) Given material and labour costs, \$5,000 is not sufficient to drive demand for the program.
- b) Lower income families would see little value in the grants.
- c) Interest rates are at historic lows and there are numerous opportunities for private financing.
- d) The Canada Infrastructure Bank has a reputation of mismanagement & squandering funds.

The Solutions:

Passive Housing is the way of the future. In order to maximize uptake, the government should cut red tape, negotiate strong international trade deals and work with provinces to eliminate inter-provincial trade barriers. Continued money printing has resulted in an inflated housing market. This practice needs to end immediately. Through the reduction of the size of government, lower income families will have better access to jobs which will allow them to achieve a higher standard of living. If they elect to spend money on retrofits, that would be their personal decision. A full audit of the Canada Infrastructure Bank should be completed and the organization disbanded.

MUNICIPAL AND COMMUNITY BUILDINGS

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) Invest \$1.5 billion over three years for green and inclusive community buildings.
- b) Require that at least 10% of the \$1.5 billion be allocated to projects serving First Nations.
- c) Provide local work opportunities, skills training and fair wages to underrepresented groups.

The Issues:

- a) Due to the pandemic, investing in community buildings at this juncture is risky.
- b) \$150 million is not sufficient to fund projects for First Nations across Canada.
- c) There is an existing apprenticeship job creation tax credit already in place.

The Solutions:

Local municipalities should be responsible for assessing local needs. This will ensure efficient delivery of services. The federal government needs to end its war on the oil and gas industry. This ideology has resulted in many Indigenous communities being unable to escape poverty. Commit to a comprehensive review of the tax code focused on reducing complexity and in favour of consumption tax.

GOVERNMENT OF CANADA BUILDINGS

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) Ensure all new federal buildings are net-zero.

The Issues:

- a) Will federal employees be returning to these facilities slated for energy efficiency retrofits?

The Solutions:

The federal government should work to reduce its overall interference in the economy. This would result in less public sector employees and therefore the need to retrofit or construct new buildings. Existing federal facilities that are no longer needed could be sold and profits used to pay down debt.

INVESTING IN THE TOOLS TO BUILD A RETROFIT ECONOMY

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) Develop a robust, low-emissions building materials supply chain.
- b) Work with provinces to develop a new model "retrofit" code for existing buildings by 2022.
- c) Conduct Canada's first-ever national infrastructure assessment.

The Issues:

- a) Protectionism mechanisms such as tariffs protect a small minority of well-connected businesses.
- b) The National Building Code of Canada only becomes law when a jurisdiction adopts it.
- c) Federal government infrastructure funding is susceptible to corruption.

The Solutions:

Rather than focusing on a select supply chain, government should implement policies to benefit consumers overall. Having a federal building code is important for allowing the free movement of labour throughout the country. The building code however, needs to be revised to allow both homeowners and contractors to easily interpret it and efficiently apply it to their projects. This will result in a lower administrative burden for contractors who can then focus on innovation. Government will never be as efficient as private enterprise. Reducing the size of government will help reduce red tape and corruption and ensure that Canadian tax dollars are spent efficiently within their local communities.

Key Takeaway:

ECCC's document is comprised of significant corporate handouts and protectionism. In order to pursue retrofits, Canadians need to be able to access affordable goods and services. Through the reduction of the size of government, cancelling tariffs and ending corporate welfare, Canadians will benefit long-term and be able to freely invest in expanding energy efficiency retrofit technologies as they see fit.

2) MAKING CLEAN, AFFORDABLE TRANSPORTATION AND POWER AVAILABLE IN EVERY COMMUNITY

MAKING ZERO-EMISSION CARS AND TRUCKS MORE ACCESSIBLE AND AFFORDABLE

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) \$287 million over two years to subsidize zero-emission vehicles (EVs).
- b) \$150 million over three years for EV charging stations.
- c) Consult with the United States Administration to increase availability of zero-emission vehicles.
- d) Align Light-Duty Vehicle regulations with the most stringent standards in North America.
- e) Procure 5,000 zero-emission public transit buses through a \$1.5 billion investment.

The Issues:

- a) EV subsidies will be funded by low-income families who can't afford additional taxes.
- b) Funds for charging stations not sufficient to replace gas stations.
- c) EV availability is largely found within regions that produce these vehicles.
- d) Adding further regulation to the auto industry will only drive up the cost of EVs.
- e) Those living in rural areas will not benefit from public transit funding.

The Solutions:

Subsidies should be cancelled immediately. The free market will dictate EV demand and the resulting need for quick charge stations. Vehicles have become significantly more fuel efficient in recent years. This will continue if competition remains strong and businesses are able to efficiently research new technologies. Transportation options should be determined by municipalities. Providing billions of dollars to large municipalities places an unfair tax cost on those living in smaller communities or rural areas. Additionally, this funding allows municipal governments to cover inefficiencies within their own budgets. Local tax revenue should be used for local projects. This will result in significantly higher accountability and better decision making.

ELECTRIFYING PUBLIC TRANSIT NETWORKS AND PROMOTING ACTIVE TRANSPORTATION

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) A national strategy to deliver active transportation options, such as walking trails.
- b) 100% tax write off for commercial light-duty, medium and heavy duty EVs.
- c) Programs to make equipment used by many Canadians less polluting and more fuel-efficient.

The Issues:

- a) Funds for active transportation options likely won't benefit rural areas of Canada.
- b) Further layers of tax regulation are difficult for businesses to navigate.
- c) Programing aimed at specific sectors of the economy is susceptible to corruption.

The Solutions:

Targeted programming only serves to help connected insiders. Public transportation options should be financed at the local level. This can be accomplished through the radical decentralization of the federal government. Enabling taxes to be collected locally will foster competition between the provinces. A strong regulatory and tax environment will lead to private sector investment and innovation.

HEAVY DUTY VEHICLES, RAIL, MARINE AND AVIATION

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) Increase the supply of, and demand for, medium and heavy duty EVs in Canada.
- b) Explore options to advance zero-emission long-haul trucking.
- c) Examine options to help deploy low-carbon fuel equipment at marine, rail and aviation hubs.

The Issues:

- a) Limited options exist in the medium and heavy duty EV market.
- b) This technology is emerging but has significant limitations.
- c) Low-carbon options for commercial flights is a long way from commercialization.

The Solutions:

Gas powered vehicles did not replace horse and buggy because the later was banned. Vehicles become the standard means of transportation as they were more cost effective. The same applies to the adaptation of EV long-haul trucks. Instead, Small Modular Reactors propulsion technology on transport ships should be pursued as a realistic short-term option for reducing emissions on a broad scale.

MAKING CANADA A WORLD LEADER IN CLEAN POWER

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) \$964 million to advance smart renewable energy and grid modernization projects.
- b) \$300 million to ensure rural communities can be powered by clean, reliable energy by 2030.
- c) Connect provinces with clean hydroelectricity to those dependent on fossil fuels.
- d) Launch a Small Modular Reactor (SMR) Action Plan by the end of 2020.
- e) Tax measures for the commercialization of technologies to meet Paris Agreement targets.
- f) Ensure Canada's electricity generation achieves net-zero emissions before 2050.
- g) Position Canada as a global leader in the production of batteries and other clean tech.

The Issues:

- a) Canadians already pay significant fees for energy delivery and grid enhancements.
- b) If SMR technology isn't used, the costs would likely outweigh the benefits.
- c) This should only be done if provinces agree and no jobs are lost.
- d) SMR technology could be beneficial as long as not subsidized by the taxpayer.
- e) Boutique tax credits reward connected companies and hurt consumers.
- f) Setting arbitrary emissions targets in Canada when China continues to pollute is pointless.
- g) What are the environmental impacts of rare-earth metal mines? How will used EV batteries be recycled as the current process is expensive and ineffective?

The Solutions:

Lessons need to be learned from the green energy scandal in Ontario. Municipalities should drive the discussion on energy grid upgrades. Consideration should be given by Alberta to purchase hydro power from British Columbia to be used to power oilsands operations. British Columbia would need to work with Alberta to resolve pipeline issues in return.

Connecting smaller communities to the North American power grid would come with significant cost. Focus on SMRs would provide a more cost effective solution. Any further research should be free of taxpayer subsidies. If the free market does not support the technology, it should not be pursued.

Arbitrary commitments to the Paris Accord have done nothing to reduce emissions. Instead, we should sell our technology to China and India instead of pursuing an ideological goal of net-zero emissions. Strip mining of rare earth minerals is no better than strip mining coal. Instead, we should rely on emerging technologies such as lithium mining from old oil and gas wells to source required materials as needed.

Key Takeaway:

Banning current technologies before viable replacements have been discovered will lead to wide scale economic turmoil. The government needs to stop taking an active role in the economy and instead foster an environment that encourages investment through low tax and reduced regulation.

3) CONTINUING TO ENSURE POLLUTION ISN'T FREE AND HOUSEHOLDS GET MORE MONEY BACK

THE COST OF CLIMATE CHANGE

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) Continue to increase the carbon tax each year until it hits \$170 per tonne in 2030.

The Issues:

- a) Data from British Columbia shows emissions have rose since their tax was implemented in 2007.
- b) The Carbon Tax acts as a wealth distribution program.
- c) Lower income families and those living in rural regions will be negatively impacted the most.
- d) The proposed Clean Fuel Standard would only exacerbate the impacts of the Carbon Tax.
- e) Border adjustment carbon tax (levy) adds cost to imported goods and will hurt consumers.
- f) Implementing the Carbon Tax on non-profit organizations is wholly unproductive.
- g) It is unlikely that small businesses would be able to undertake retrofits at this juncture.
- h) Like British Columbia's carbon tax program, will the rebates eventually be eliminated?

The Solutions:

Regardless of the recent Supreme Court of Canada decision to declare the existing carbon tax as constitutional, it does not mean that it is good policy. The tax should be repealed immediately. Canada is responsible for less than 2% of global emissions. Instead of focusing on eliminating our own emissions, we should be selling our technology and Liquid Natural Gas to foreign jurisdictions with significantly worse emissions records.

Canadians enjoy a high standard of living as we have access to affordable energy. The carbon tax negatively impacts lower income families as it increases the cost of basic necessities which limits the ability of these families to save and get ahead in life.

Key Takeaway:

Canadians are proud of our country and take great responsibility in the protection of our environment. As evidenced above, the Carbon Tax system misses the mark in its quest to reduce emissions. Furthermore, the tax will only serve to expand the wealth gap that exists within Canada. Regulation and increased tax burdens only serve to reduce innovation and limit Canada's ability to compete in the global marketplace.

4) BUILDING CANADA'S CLEAN INDUSTRIAL ADVANTAGE

SUPPORTING LOCAL ECONOMIES AND SMALL AND MEDIUM BUSINESSES

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) Cut corporate tax rate in half for those making zero-emissions products.
- b) Consult with businesses to offer rebates, investments and supports to further reduce emissions.

The Issues:

- a) Industry specific corporate tax cuts favour connected insiders and don't produce results.
- b) Boutique tax credits and programs are complex to administer and prone to corruption.

The Solutions:

Canada is losing 100s of billions in private sector investment dollars due to an out-of-date tax system and an overbearing regulatory system. Adding further tax credits and incentives to our tax system will only result in further administrative burdens. The federal government needs to commit to a full review of the tax system. Reform should be aimed at implementing a consumption tax system that encourages investment. Reducing the size and scope of the federal government through decentralization will promote competition between provinces which will translate into increased private sector investment.

ELIMINATING POLLUTION FROM NATURAL RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND HEAVY INDUSTRY

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) Net-Zero Challenge to encourage large emitters to transition to net-zero emissions by 2050.
- b) \$3 billion over five years to support decarbonization and the creation of resilient jobs.
- c) \$750 million of repayable funding to oil and gas companies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- d) Use proceeds from the Output-Based Pricing System to cut emissions and use clean technology.
- e) Complete the Federal Greenhouse Gas Offset System to provide compliance flexibility for OBPS.
- f) Phase-out all inefficient fossil fuel subsidies by 2025.
- g) Establish new targets for methane emissions reductions for 2030 and 2035.
- h) Achieve existing 2025 target of 40-45% reduction in methane emissions.
- i) Develop a carbon capture, use and storage strategy (CCUS).
- j) Implement the new Impact Assessment process.
- k) Increase the carbon tax to \$170/tonne by 2030 (currently at \$40/tonne).

The Issues:

- a) Putting pressure on companies to achieve net-zero could result in business failures.
- b) The Net Zero Accelerator fund has significant administrative burdens.
- c) Oil and gas companies have already taken steps to reduce emissions and continue to do so.
- d) Multiple layers of regulation and tax will reduce Canadian company's ability to compete.
- e) This is in addition to the OBPS system and is currently open for consultation.
- f) Subsidies given to rail, motion picture and Ag industries are significantly higher than oil and gas.
- g) Oilsands continue to see significant decreases in methane emissions per produced barrel.
- h) More regulation is not an effective way to spur innovation.
- i) CCUS technology has been in use in oilsands production for a number of years already.
- j) Impact Assessment process with stifle major projects. Approval processes need to be expedited.
- k) The carbon tax has been ineffective in reducing emissions and increases costs of necessities.

The Solutions:

Canadian businesses already face significant regulatory burdens. Further burdens will only weaken our ability to compete in an expanding global marketplace. All corporate subsidies should be eliminated. These funds serve to benefit a select group of connected insiders to the detriment of consumers overall. Only products that are commercially viable via private market financing should be accepted by Canadians. The pursuit for zero-emissions through a carbon tax escalator ignores emissions produced in other countries. Instead of taxing Canadians in an effort to drive down domestic emissions, we should be selling our technologies to the world in an effort to drive down their emissions.

PRODUCING AND USING CLEANER FUELS ACROSS THE ECONOMY

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) \$1.5 billion in a Low-carbon and Zero-emissions Fuels Fund.
- b) Introduce Canada's Hydrogen Strategy.

The Issues:

- a) Low-carbon fuels will be adopted by the market as they become viable.
- b) Companies within the oil and gas sector are best positioned to pursue hydrogen production.

The Solutions:

Biofuels offer some promise although the technology is largely unproven at this time. Concerns related to higher food prices, loss of habitat, nitrous oxide production and limited use in vehicles must be overcome by the private sector first. Hydrogen, although promising, has drawbacks related to safety, storage, cost and production but should be pursued independent of government subsidies. Government should focus on reducing red tape to encourage research and development, specifically in regard to SMRs. This technology is much closer to commercialization and would be much easier to use via energy efficiency retrofit and have more significant impact on global emissions.

MADE-IN-CANADA MANUFACTURING

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) Development of the entire battery supply chain.
- b) Attract investments and create jobs in the manufacturing of zero-emissions products.
- c) Help leading clean technology companies commercialize products and grow.

The Issues:

- a) It may not be economically viable for Canada to develop entire battery supply chains.
- b) Businesses attract investments and create jobs when they operate in a competitive market.
- c) Funding to commercialize clean tech products should come from the private sector.

The Solutions:

Focus should be centered on removing regulations surrounding mining projects. Canadian companies would then be able to sell the required materials needed for battery construction to other jurisdictions in a timely manner and for full market value. Mining rare earth minerals required for EV batteries would create numerous skilled labour positions. Companies such as Lion Electric (recently received provincial and federal government subsidies), could then use cheaply made EV batteries from foreign jurisdictions to market and sell their trucks and buses at more competitive pricing. This would lead to corporate growth and ultimately more manufacturing jobs.

CLIMATE-SMART AGRICULTURE

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) \$165.7 million over 7 years to help the agriculture industry develop clean technologies.
- b) Set a national emission standard of 30% below 2020 levels from fertilizers.
- c) Work with provinces and territories to boost climate-smart agriculture.
- d) Help farmers diversify by producing feedstocks for biofuels.

The Issues:

- a) The Ag industry does not receive credit for the vast carbon sink it operates.
- b) The carbon tax disproportionately impacts farmers. Fertilizer targets would exasperate this.
- c) The current partnership is already highly contentious. Provinces should be responsible for this.
- d) Biofuels will be developed if/when they become economically viable.

The Solutions:

Growing crops as a source of heating fuel when significant portions of the global population struggle with starvation is a crime against humanity. Canadian farmers have a rich history of protecting our environment while providing food for Canada and the world. Layering additional carbon tax onto transportation or drying expenses does nothing to reduce emissions, rather it makes it harder for farmers to provide for their families. Instead of penalizing farmers, the federal government should stop interfering and allow farmers to continue innovating.

REDUCING WASTE

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) Increase the number of landfills that collect and treat their methane.
- b) Support waste and biosolids management infrastructure such as composting.

The Issues:

- a) Continuing to rely heavily on landfills and exports of plastics ignores upcoming tech.
- b) The private sector should be relied upon to develop compost solutions.

The Solutions:

There are a number of projects in early development stages that aim to address waste. One particularly interesting project sees plastic waste recycled through the production of asphalt material. A pilot project is currently operating in Kneehill County, AB between the private sector and an Alberta university. In order to encourage more projects of a similar nature and without resorting to subsidies, government needs to reduce red tape.

FROM THE RESEARCH LAB TO MAIN STREET – CLEAN TECHNOLOGY

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) \$750 million over 5 years to support startups and scale-up companies in clean tech industries.
- b) Use purchasing power and emerging technologies to reduce emissions in federal buildings.
- c) Help Canadian businesses navigate available federal resources.
- d) Develop tax measures to ensure that Canada has a competitive investment environment.
- e) Bring industry and academia together for research and development projects.
- f) Help large-scale technology projects leverage private capital investments.
- g) Explore opportunities to support research and development of cutting-edge clean tech.

The Issues:

- a) Funding for startups should be sourced from the private sector only.
- b) Many federal buildings have sat empty over the past year, now may be a good time to sell.
- c) Tax reform that eliminated programs would eliminate the need for this administration.
- d) Boutique tax credits will not help Canada reach arbitrary emissions goals.
- e) Further funding in government selected academia only serves to fulfil ideological goals.
- f) The private sector is fully capable of matching large-scale projects with investments.
- g) Private sector companies are consistently advancing technology.

The Solutions:

Governments are always looking for an “investment” in the private sector that will result in a home run and score them political points. Problem is that government operated projects are all too often plagued with corruption, mismanagement and time run overs. Using public funds to float private sector company's results in the taxpayer funding potential losses. Boutique tax credits and other similar programs should be avoided. Rather, the government should commit to a full scale tax reform that results in Canada being the most tax-friendly jurisdiction in the world. This could be accomplished through a move from income based taxation to consumption based. A consumption based tax would encourage investment and unleash the potential of the private sector within Canada. Governments do not create jobs but they create the environments that business owners operate in.

SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND CAREERS

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) \$35 million for the creation of the Canada Coal Transition Initiative.
- b) \$150 million infrastructure fund for economic diversification in coal transitioning regions.
- c) \$5,000 for every Canadian to gain new skills and seize the opportunities of the clean economy.

The Issues:

- a) Spending money to move workers out of gainful employment is bad policy.
- b) Many communities who depended on the coal industry have turned into ghost towns.
- c) The government should not be in the business of jobs training.

The Solutions:

The fossil fuel industry will be prominent in the global economy for years to come. The federal government must end its war on the oil and gas industry immediately. Taxpayers should not be funding programs that intentionally puts other Canadians out of work when the global economy demands the goods and services being provided. Instead of funding transition initiatives, the government should immediately repeal Bill C-48 and Bill C-69. Creating an investment climate that champions the oil and gas sector will see the private sector return to Canada's oil and gas industry, resulting in more jobs than Canada would be able to fill.

Key Takeaway:

Canada's current regulatory and taxation system is not sustainable. Government bureaucracy increases on an annual basis while service decreases and Canadians receive less for their tax dollars. We need to shift to a system that taxes consumption and encourages savings, investment, innovation and wealth. Making this change won't be easy but it is necessary if we are to regain our competitive edge in the global market.

5) EMBRACING THE POWER OF NATURE TO SUPPORT HEALTHIER FAMILIES AND MORE RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

ECCC's Plan Proposes:

- a) \$3.16 billion over 10 years to plant two billion trees.
- b) \$631 million over 10 years to restore wetlands, peatlands, grasslands, and agriculture lands.
- c) \$98.4 million over 10 years to establish a new Natural Climate Solutions for Agriculture Fund.

The Issues:

- a) According to a recent report, these trees will actually cost \$5.94 billion.
- b) This type of funding should be provincial responsibility so it directly benefits those paying.
- c) Farmers are unfairly impacted by the carbon tax and contribute greatly to Canada's carbon sink.

The Solutions:

There are numerous examples of successful collaboration between Indigenous communities and the private sector in the development of pipelines. These include Coastal GasLink, Keystone XL, Trans Mountain Pipeline and others.

In order to further this relationship, the government needs to fulfill its promise to end long-term drinking water advisories on all First Nation reserves immediately. Strong relationships are built on trust. The consistent failure to end drinking water advisories does not build the required trust needed to work on other projects. Similarly to pipeline projects, the work to end drinking water advisories should be completed by First Nation businesses and community members wherever possible. Through collaboration and respect, we can move forward and build a better future for all Canadians.

Key Takeaway:

Environmental policy should not be implemented at the cost of economic policy. Trees, water and air should not be valued more than individuals, families and communities. Government should not impose its ideological agenda upon Canadians, rather respect the environment in conjunction with the economy. Unilaterally destroying the Canadian energy sector has no impact on global emissions, has been detrimental to the economy and has devastated families across our great country.

CONCLUSION

It is the government's responsibility to implement policies that protect the following:

1. Its citizens, their lives and their freedoms.
2. The economy in a manner that benefits that majority of its citizens, without mortgaging the wealth of future generations in favour of short-term gain or votes.
3. The environment in a manner that preserves the country for future generations without impeding, in any material way, the points listed above.

Canada is a global leader in clean technology and adheres to some of the highest environmental regulations in the world. We need to continue to build upon this expertise and deliver solutions to global problems.

Protecting the environment is a global issue. Banning tankers on the west coast of Canada or forcing domestic energy projects to comply with crippling regulatory requirements does nothing to change emissions in countries such as China or India. If we choose to ignore what happens beyond our borders we are doing a disservice to not only ourselves but to the world.

Moving forward, government must end ideological policies that alienate millions of Canadians, destroy tens of thousands of jobs and crush our economy. Canada can continue being a global leader of ethical, socially, and environmentally sourced energy. It is through our natural resources and the development of value-added products that Canadians can continue to enjoy a high standard of living. It is through cost-effective energy production that the world will continue to prosper.

Energy and environment have co-existed for years. It will continue to do so in the future. Instead of putting our energy industry on the sidelines, we must embrace all that it is capable of doing for us. Passive houses, small nuclear reactors, liquefied natural gas and other advanced technologies would not be possible without Canada's energy industry and are immediate and proven environmental solutions.

ECCC proposes a plan rooted in crony capitalism, wealth distribution, higher energy prices and stifling regulation. The alternatives outlined in ***A Healthy Environment and a Healthy Economy 2.0*** provide realistic free market options that will not only protect the environment, but create a prosperous future for all Canadians.

When considering which options are best suited for Canadians going forward, consider the following. The Government of Canada has added significant power, spent hundreds of billions of dollars and regulated nearly everything over the past year and a half in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic. Have you been impressed with the results? If not, why would you expect ECCC's plans for the economy and environment post-pandemic, to be any different?